

# Errors

B. Allombert

Institut de Mathématiques de Bordeaux  
Univ. Bordeaux, CNRS, INRIA

24/06/2025

## printf

- ▶ `void pari_printf(const char *fmt, ...)` is a variant of `printf` which supports the size modifier P for GEN object.

```
pari_printf("%d^%d = %Pd\n", 2, 128, shifti(2,128));  
pari_printf("M = %Ps\n", mathilbert(5));  
pari_printf("Pi = %Pg\n", mppi(128));
```

- ▶ `void err_printf(const char *fmt, ...)` output to the error channel.
- ▶ `GEN gsprintf(const char *fmt, ...)` return the string as a `t_STR`.
- ▶ `char * pari_sprintf(const char *fmt, ...)` return the string as a `char *` that needs to be freed with `pari_free`.
- ▶ `char * stack_sprintf(const char *fmt, ...)` return the string as a `char *` on the PARI stack.

## timer

PARI timers are of type `pari_timer`.

- ▶ `void timer_start(pari_timer *ti)`: start the timer.
- ▶ `long timer_delay(pari_timer *ti)`: return the elapsed time in millisecond.
- ▶ `void timer_printf(pari_timer *ti, const char *format, ...)` print Time str : delay where str is `stack_sprintf(const char *fmt, ...)` and delay is the time in millisecond. This function also resets the timer.

## Debug domain

Debug domains set by `setdebug` are defined in  
`src/headers/paridbgvlv1.h`. A C file is associated with a debug  
domain by adding at the start of the file the line (here for the  
domain `bnf`)

```
#define DEBUGLEVEL DEBUGLEVEL_bnf
```

then when one want to indicate progress, one do

```
if (DEBUGLEVEL>=1) err_printf(...);
```

or

```
if (DEBUGLEVEL>=1) timer_printf(&ti,...);
```

## Example

```
GEN myfun(GEN V)
{
    pari_timer ti;
    long i, l = lg(V);
    GEN W = cgetg(l, t_VEC);
    timer_start(&ti);
    for (i=1; i<l; i++)
    {
        gel(W, i) = Z_factor(gel(V,i));
        if (DEBUGLEVEL>=1)
            timer_printf(&ti,"factoring entry %ld",i);
    }
    return W;
}
```

## Throwing errors

Errors can be thrown using `pari_err_xxx` functions (that in turn call the internal `pari_err` function). The data provided is encapsulated in a `t_ERROR` object returned by `iferr`.

- ▶ `void pari_err_BUG(const char *f)`, message "bug in f, please report.".
- ▶ `void pari_err_TYPE(const char *f, GEN x)`, message "incorrect type in f (`type(x)`)."
- ▶ `void pari_err_TYPE2(const char *f, GEN x, GEN y)`, message "forbidden f `type(x)`, `type(y)`."
- ▶ `void pari_err_DOMAIN(const char *f, const char *v, const char *op, GEN l, GEN x)`, message "domain error in f: v op x."
- ▶ `void pari_err_INV(const char *f, GEN x)`, message "impossible inverse in f: x."

## Example GP

```
? install(pari_err_DOMAIN,"vsssGG","err");
? err("ellj","Im(tau)","<=",gen_0,-I)
*** err: domain error in ellj: Im(tau) <= gen_0
? E;iferr(err("ellj","Im(tau)","<=",gen_0,-I),E,E);
%3 = error("domain error in ellj: Im(tau) <= gen_0")
? Vec(E)
%4 = ["e_DOMAIN","ellj","Im(tau)","<=",gen_0,-I]
```

## Example C

```
GEN modii_chk(GEN x, GEN y}
{
    if (typ(x)!=t_INT) pari_err_TYPE("modii_chk", x);
    if (typ(y)!=t_INT) pari_err_TYPE("modii_chk", y);
    if (signe(y)==0)    pari_err_INV("modii_chk", y);
    return modii(x,y);
}
```

## t\_ERROR

t\_ERROR denote error objects returned by iferr.

- ▶ `long err_get_num(GEN E)`: return the type of the error (`e_BUG`, `e_TYPE`, `e_DOMAIN`, `e_INV`, etc.).
- ▶ `GEN err_get_compo(GEN E, long i)`: return the *i*-th component of the error.

An universal t\_ERROR object `err_e_STACK` is available, which is safe to use even after a PARI stack overflow (`e_STACK` or `e_STACKTHREAD`).

## Catching errors

Catch errors in C is discouraged but possible (at least to implement iferr).

- ▶ `pari_CATCH(e_TYPE)` catch errors of type `e_TYPE`, use `CATCH_ALL` to catch all errors (very discouraged). Introduce the error recovery code. It is possible to recover from a stack overflow by resetting `avma` to the value just before `pari_CATCH`.
- ▶ `GEN pari_err_last(void)`: return the error that was caught as a `t_ERROR`.
- ▶ `pari_TRY`: Introduce the code to execute.
- ▶ `pari_ENDCATCH`: End of the code to execute.

## Examples

```
GEN ecm(GEN N, GEN B, GEN nb)
{ long a;
  pari_CATCH(e_INV)
{
  GEN E = pari_err_last();
  return ggcd(lift(err_get_compo(E, 2)), N);
} pari_TRY {
  for (a = 1; a<=nb; a++)
{
  GEN E = ellinit(mkvec2s(a,1), N, DEFAULTPREC);
  ellmul(E, mkvec2s(0,1), B);
}
} pari_ENDCATCH
return gen_0;
}
```